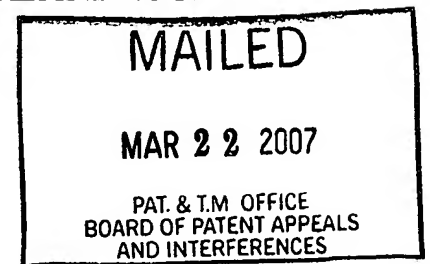


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCE

Ex part LAWRENCE KOVED, ANOTHNY JOSEPH NADALIN, NATARAJ
NAGARATHNAM, MARCO PISTOIA and BRUCE ARLAND RICH

Application 10/002,439



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on December 6, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

Information Disclosure Statements (IDSs) were filed March 7, 2002 and May 2, 2005. It is not clear from the record whether the examiner considered the IDSs or whether the examiner notified appellants of why their submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Application 10/002,439

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) to consider the Information Disclosure Statements filed March 7, 2002 and May 2, 2005;
- 2) provide appropriate written notification by the examiner to appellants of such consideration; and
- 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES



PATRICK J. NOLAN
Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator
(571)272-9797

PJN/pgc

cc: IBM Corp. (YA)
C/O Yee & Associates PC
P.O. box 802333
Dallas, TX 75380